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NEWS RELEASE

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No Detention Violations Found at Juvenile Homes

For the third consecutive year, the Office of Youth Services found no detention violations at Hale Ho`omalua and Home Maluhia, the state's juvenile detention facilities under the administration of the Family Court of the First Judicial Circuit.

The annual monitoring visit-- covering July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002--is to ensure the State complies with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 in order to receive its annual allocation of \$900,000 in Federal funds. Generally, JJDP ensures the safety of children in the justice system, such as having no contact with incarcerated adults or being detained in any adult jail or lockup.

"To have a finding of no detention violations, especially three years in a row, is truly amazing," said Senior Family Court Judge Frances Wong.

"Jeffrey Nishikawa, superintendent of the Detention Services Branch, and his staff deserve all the credit for their good work on behalf of our young people and the community," said Wong. "The family court judges and I are well aware of the many challenges Jeff and his staff have to face every day."

The Office of Youth Services will submit its findings to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention that will in turn determine Hawaii's eligibility for annual allocation of Federal funds.

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